

CHILD CARE LICENSING RULES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2006

Changes for Child Care Centers

1. Pre-Licensing Requirements - Rule .0301(c)

- The operator of a child care center must complete a pre-licensing workshop prior to the Division issuing an initial license or an initial Notice of Compliance to the center. This applies to an initial license issued on or after January 1, 2006.

2. In-Service Training Requirements/Orientation for New Employees - Rule .0707

- New employees at a center must receive a minimum of 16 clock hours of on-site training and orientation within the first 6 weeks of employment.

An additional requirement was added to the content area.

- A review of requirements regarding adequate supervision of children, which takes into account their age, emotional, physical, and cognitive development.
- Within the first 2 weeks of employment, new employees shall complete, 6 clock hours of the training and orientation in the following areas:
 - Recognition of signs and symptoms of child abuse or neglect and the employee's duty to report suspected abuse and neglect;
 - Review of the center's operational policies, including the center's safe sleep policy for infants; and
 - Adequate supervision of children.

3. Staff/Child Ratios – Rules .0712, .0713, .1606 & .2803

- The staff/child ratio applicable to a classroom must be posted in that classroom in an area that parents are able to view at all times.

Changes for Centers and Homes Regarding Administrative Actions

1. Administrative Penalties: General Provisions - Rule .2201(d)

- Following the substantiation of any abuse or neglect complaint or the issuance of any administrative action against a child care facility, the operator shall notify the parents of children currently enrolled that a complaint was substantiated or that an administrative action was taken against the facility, including administrative actions that may be stayed pending appeal.
 - The notification shall be in writing and include information on the nature of the substantiated complaint or the administrative action taken.
 - The operator shall maintain copies of documentation of the substantiated complaint investigation or the administrative action issued against the facility for the past three years in a binder, which shall be accessible to parents.
 - The written notice shall state where the binder may be found on site for review by parents.
 - The operator shall document the date the written notice is given to all parents.

*****Changes to child care sanitation rules (15A NCAC 18 .2800) and to the child care sanitation grade sheet, effective January 1, 2006. To view changes visit the NC Department of Environment & Natural Resources web site at http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/ehs/Children_Health/Child_Care/child_care.html.**